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SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM ESTABLISHED IN RUMANIA -- Tel Aviv, Kol Haam, 3 Sep 53

Pension rights have been legally established in the Rumanian People's Republic. In the last four years more than 1.5 billion lei have been appropriated from the social security budget for pension benefits.

A worker receives an old-age pension after a certain number of years of labor. The men receive pensions at the age of 60, after 25 years of work; the women, at 55, after 20 years of work. Laborers, engineers, and technicians who work under great hardships receive pensions at age 50, after 20 years of work. The smallest pension equals 50 percent of the average salary of an employee or laborer during his last 12 months of work.

Parallel with the expanding nationalization of the economy, the government is taking concrete steps to expand its program in order to bring pension benefits to the working masses. Allotments of 584 million lei were made [date not indicated] for pensions of the disabled, war orphans, and war widows. This year the allotments were increased approximately by 10 million lei. In the past, laborers received pensions at the age of 65, while heads of the administration [government officials] received pensions at the age of 40. Until the establishment of social security, a director of a bank at the age of 46 received a pension 40 times greater than a laborer's.

The allotments of old-age pensions for laborers, white-collar workers, and their families increase from year to year. Compared with 1949, the allotments in 1952 increased by 35.08 percent, and in 1953, by 40.09 percent.

Besides pensions, the pensioners and their families benefit from medical care in case of illness, and many of them are sent to health resorts. During the summer, more than 7,500 pensioners are sent to various resorts throughout the country.

RUMANIA TO SUFFER FAMINE -- Athens, Stratiotika Nea, 16 Aug 53

According to reliable information from Eucharast, a famine more serious than the 1952-1953 famine, is expected to strike Rumania during 1953-1954. It was reported recently that the Rumanian government was ordered to send 16,000 tons of wheat to Eastern Germany. In addition, wheat and other agricultural products are continuously being sent to the Soviet Union. All products kept in Rumania for internal consumption are intended for the Soviet troops and the Rumanian party cadres.

SOVROM BLAMED FOR RUMANIAN ECONOMIC CRISES -- Athens, Stratiotika Nea, 16 Aug 53

According to reports from Rumania and Western Germany, the Sovrom companies have caused the economic crisis in Rumania, because, since their establishment, all small food factories have been closed down and all Rumanian goods have begun to be shipped out of the country. At the same time, the collectives have decreased agricultural production.

WAGES OF RUMANIAN WORKERS GIVEN -- Athens, Stratiotika Nea, 13 Sep 53

According to reliable information reported by Rumanian refugees, the average salary of a Rumanian worker is 400 lei a month. However, 17 percent of the worker's salary is kept for taxes, "contributions," "collections," etc. With the remainder the worker is able to buy, at ration prices, 40 kilograms of bread, 2 kilograms of sugar, 3 kilograms of meat, 2 liters of seed-oil [vegetable oil?] 300

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liters of milk, and 35 kilograms of vegetables. However, most of the time these products are not found in state stores and have to be bought at black-market prices which are at least three times more than ration prices. The two pairs of shoes and the 5 meters of cloth material which workers are supposed to receive each year are given to those workers who keep up their production quota.

BREAD SHORTAGE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA -- Lisbon, Diario da Manha, 16 Sep 53

Vienna, 15 September -- Workers often have to go to work without bread in the town of Most and in the surrounding mining area, as well as in the synthetic gasoline factory, in the Stalin factory, and in Horni Jiretin /Horni Litvinov Okres/. Housewives have to walk about 6 kilometers to Most to obtain bread.

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